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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 657,179	09 07 2000	Bengt Svensson	3670-18	1904

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EXAMINER

LEE, BENNY T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

57179

Applicant(s)

Svensson et al

Examiner

B Lee

Group Art Unit

2817

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE Three (3) MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2002.
- ☒ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10, 11; 12-14 is/are rejected.
- ☒ Claim(s) 8, 9 is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☒ The proposed drawing correction, filed on 19 Sept 2002 is ☒ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 Sept 2002 is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1 7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892 Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 Other _____

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The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Note that the reference labels need to be individually described in the "fig 2" description. Similarly, in Fig. 4, all reference labels except (410, 415-418, 421) should be described in the corresponding specification description. However the above objections as well as like objections can be obviated if applicant's include a statement in the specification that indicates like reference labels in different drawing figures pertain to one in the same element as described in other drawing figures.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 13 has been objected to since "constructed in" should be rewritten as "comprised of -- for a better characterization.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-7, 10, 11; 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Ajioka.

Ajioka (fig. 4) discloses a conductive plate wherein a plurality of branched waveguide grooves or channels (80) are machined into such a plate as to define overlapping waveguide branch channels (i.e. one waveguide channel over another waveguide channel). Note that the overlapping branch waveguide channels are in electromagnetic communication via at least straight line slot coupling aperture (81, 83) at ends of the overlapping waveguides (e.g. see fig 1b) and which are oriented at a right angle relative to the propagation direction of each

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waveguide. Also evident from fig. 1b is that the direction of propagation in the respective overlapping waveguides are in opposite (i.e. different) directions. Regarding claims 12-14, note that fig. 1a which incorporates the Ajioka branch waveguide arrangement is usable in antenna applications especially with waves having a particular polarization (e.g. see the background of the invention and the summary of the invention).

Claims 8, 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Benny Lee at telephone number (703) 308-4902.

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B LEE/pj

12/10/02